

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1. through 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Previously presented) A method for treating a patient having pain caused by otitis media, comprising the step of:

administering eardrops to the ear of said patient in a manner so as not to effect gene transfer, thereby reducing said pain, wherein said eardrops comprise an effective amount of DNA in a pharmaceutically-acceptable vehicle.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein said vehicle is selected from the group consisting of water, saline, albumin, and dextrose.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein said effective amount of DNA is from about 0.00012 mg to about 0.003 mg DNA.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein said effective amount of DNA is about 0.0006 mg of DNA.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein said patient is a human.

20. Cancelled.